# Class Title: Zookeeper

#### **BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE CLASSIFICATION:**

Cares for a variety of wild and domesticated animals. Feeds, grooms, trains, medicates, and observes animals. Assists with the design and maintenance of exhibits, performs administrative duties, educates the public, and performs other duties as assigned.

#### **ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS:**

This information is intended to be descriptive of the key responsibilities of the classification. The following examples do not identify all duties performed by any single incumbent. Specific requirements of individual positions are described in the Job Description.

|   | Physical<br>Strength Code | ESSENTIAL FUNCTIONS  |
|---|---------------------------|--|
| 1 | VH                        | Cares for animals by preparing individual diets and feeding, grooming, training, administering medications, breeding, assisting veterinarian with physical examinations, and observing behavior.   |
| 2 | Н                         | Assists with the design and maintenance of exhibits by collecting data on natural habitats, constructing or gathering materials for exhibit, removing hazards, performing minor repairs, gardening, shoveling, cleaning and disinfecting, raking leaves, picking up litter, maintaining pools, and filling in mud holes. |
| 3 | L                         | Performs administrative duties by keeping records on animal behavior and exhibit repairs, maintaining inventory, filling out paperwork and surveys, conducting research, preparing reports, and presenting findings, attending meetings, and training volunteers and personnel.  |
| 4 | L                         | Educates the public by conducting tours, providing information, and giving presentations to school groups and visitors.  |
| 5 | L                         | Performs other duties by picking up supplies, maintaining vehicles, and coordinating the delivery of new animals to the zoo.   |

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## **CLASS REQUIREMENTS:**

|   | CLASS REQUIREMENTS  |
|---|---|
| Formal Education /<br>Knowledge           | Work requires broad knowledge in a general profession or technical field.<br>Knowledge is normally acquired through four years of college resulting in a Bachelor's degree or equivalent  |
| Experience                                | One year of experience as an Animal Caretaker.  |
| Certifications and Other Requirements     | Valid Driver's License  |
| Reading                                   | Work requires the ability to read various reports, technical journals, equipment manuals, and related periodicals.  |
| Math                                      | Work requires the ability to perform general math calculations such as addition, subtraction, multiplication and division, algebra, and statistics.   |
| Writing                                   | Work requires the ability to write articles, research papers, daily logs, reports, proposals, and presentations.  |
| Managerial                                | Managerial responsibilities include planning exhibits renovations and upgrades, maintaining inventory, and allocating resources.  |
| Budget Responsibility                     | N/A   |
| Supervisory /<br>Organizational Control   | Work requires the occasional direction of helpers, assistants, seasonal employees, interns, volunteers or temporary employees.  |
| Complexity                                | Work requires analysis and judgment in accomplishing diversified duties. Work requires the exercise of independent thinking within the limits of policies, standards, and precedents.   |
| Interpersonal / Human<br>Relations Skills | Contacts others within the organization. These contacts may involve similar work units or departments within the City which may be involved in decision making or providing approval or decision making authority for purchases or projects. Works with individuals outside the City who may belong to professional or peer organizations. Working with various state and federal agencies may also be required. Vendors and suppliers may also be called upon for information on purchases, supplies or products. Meetings and discussions may be conducted with customers, brokers and sales representatives. |

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### **OVERALL PHYSICAL STRENGTH DEMANDS:**

| Sedentary  | Light  | Medium   | Heavy X   | Very Heavy   |
|--|--|--|---|--|
| S = Sedentary Exerting up to 10 lbs. occasionally or negligible weights frequently; sitting most of the time | L = Light Exerting up to 20 lbs. occasionally, 10 lbs. frequently, or negligible amounts constantly OR requires walking or standing to a significant degree. | M = Medium Exerting 20-50 lbs. occasionally, 10-25 lbs. frequently, or up to 10 lbs. constantly. | H = Heavy Exerting 50-100 lbs. occasionally, 25-50 lbs. frequently, or up to 10-20 lbs. constantly. | VH = Very Heavy<br>Exerting over 100 lbs.<br>occasionally, 50-100 lbs.<br>frequently, or up to 20-50<br>lbs. constantly. |

### **PHYSICAL DEMANDS:**

| C = Continuously         | F = Frequently               | O = Occasionally       | R = Rarely                 | N = Never     |
|--------------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| 2/3 or more of the time. | From 1/3 to 2/3 of the time. | Up to 1/3 of the time. | Less than 1 hour per week. | Never occurs. |

This is a description of the way the job is currently performed; it does not address the potential for accommodation.

| PHYSICAL<br>DEMANDS | FREQUENCY<br>CODE | DESCRIPTION  |
|---------------------|-------------------|--|
| Standing            | С                 | Giving educational talks, cutting diets, animal observation, exhibit maintenance   |
| Sitting             | O                 | Meetings, record keeping, doing research   |
| Walking             | С                 | Cleaning exhibits, to feeders, from exhibit to exhibit   |
| Lifting             | C                 | Feed, trash, incapacitated animals   |
| Carrying            | C                 | Feed, tools, animals   |
| Pushing/Pulling     | С                 | Animals, shift doors   |
| Reaching            | С                 | Tools, pans, animals, raking   |
| Handling            | C                 | Hoses, tools, animals  |
| Fine Dexterity      | 0                 | Assisting with surgery, draw up medications  |
| Kneeling            | O                 | Animal handling, planting  |
| Crouching           | 0                 | Work around props in animal enclosures   |
| Crawling            | R                 | Animal observations  |
| Bending             | С                 | Cleaning enclosures  |
| Twisting            | С                 | Cleaning enclosures  |
| Climbing            | O                 | Props in exhibits, fences  |
| Balancing           | R                 | Cleaning animal enclosures   |
| Vision              | С                 | Animal observation, watching visitors  |
| Hearing             | С                 | Animal observations, communication with others   |
| Talking             | 0                 | Communicating with other staff/visitors  |
| Foot Controls       | F                 | Driving truck  |
| Other (specify)     | 0                 | Physically interacting with animals, environmental behavioral enrichment with animals, training animals, capture and restraint |

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# MACHINES, TOOLS, EQUIPMENT, AND WORK AIDS:

Mower, egg incubator, shovel, rakes, broom, scrub brushes, walkie-talkie, hand pruners, loppers, hoses, screwdrivers, hammer, drill, wire cutters, physical and chemical resistant items

#### **ENVIRONMENTAL FACTORS:**

| D = Daily | W = Several    | M = Several     | S = Seasonally | N = Never |
|-----------|----------------|-----------------|----------------|-----------|
|           | Times Per Week | Times Per Month | -              |           |

| HEALTH AND SAFETY        |   | ENVIRONMENTAL FACTO       | RS |
|--------------------------|---|---------------------------|----|
| Mechanical Hazards       | D | Dirt and Dust             | D  |
| Chemical Hazards         | D | Extreme Temperatures      | D  |
| Electrical Hazards       | D | Noise and Vibration       | W  |
| Fire Hazards             | M | Fumes and Odors           | D  |
| Explosives               | M | Wetness/Humidity          | D  |
| Communicable Diseases    | D | Darkness or Poor Lighting | M  |
| Physical Danger or Abuse | D |                           |    |
| Other (see 1 below)      | N |                           |    |

| PRIMARY WORK LOCAT  | TION |
|---------------------|------|
| Office Environment  |      |
| Warehouse           |      |
| Shop                |      |
| Vehicle             |      |
| Outdoors            | X    |
| Other (see 2 below) |      |

(1)

(2)

### **PROTECTIVE EQUIPMENT REQUIRED:**

Face mask, gloves, dust masks, steel toed boots, back support /brace

#### **NON-PHYSICAL DEMANDS:**

| C = Continuously         | F = Frequently                   | O = Occasionally       | R = Rarely                 | N = Never     |
|--------------------------|----------------------------------|------------------------|----------------------------|---------------|
| 2/3 or more of the time. | From $1/3$ to $2/3$ of the time. | Up to 1/3 of the time. | Less than 1 hour per week. | Never occurs. |

| NON-PHYSICAL DEMANDS                          |   |
|---|---|
| Time Pressures                                | O |
| Emergency Situations                          | O |
| Frequent Change of Tasks                      | F |
| Irregular Work Schedule/Overtime              | O |
| Performing Multiple Tasks Simultaneously      | F |
| Working Closely with Others as Part of a Team | F |
| Tedious or Exacting Work                      | R |
| Noisy/Distracting Environment                 | F |
| Other (see 3 below)                           | N |

(3)

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